

Closing the diagnostic gap

An educational guide to navigating acute respiratory illness



Acute respiratory infections remain one of healthcare's most common diagnostic challenges.

Respiratory symptoms often overlap across bacterial and non-bacterial illnesses, making patient assessment and treatment decisions more complex.

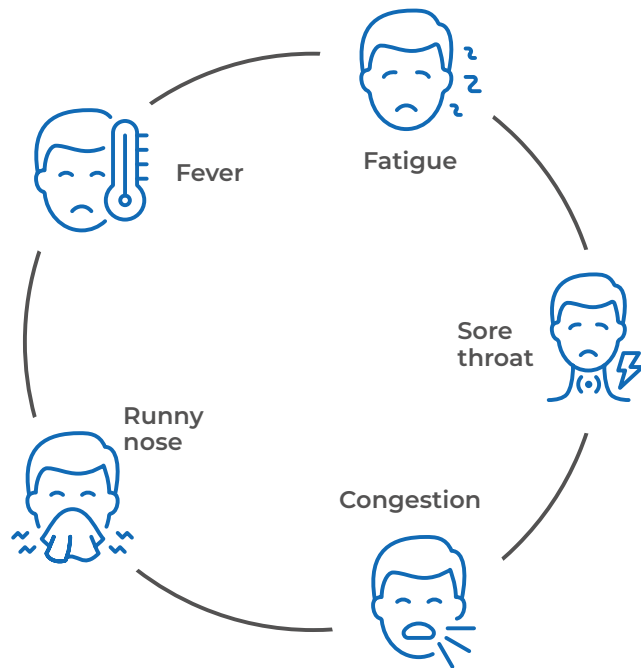
Rapid clinical insights help inform conversations around next steps, referrals and antimicrobial stewardship.

Acute respiratory infections account for millions of outpatient visits annually.

Symptoms alone often cannot reliably distinguish bacterial from non-bacterial illness.

Symptoms rarely tell the **full story**.

Cough, fever, sore throat, congestion and fatigue are among the most common complaints in decentralized care settings. Yet many respiratory infections present with similar symptoms, making it difficult to confidently navigate patient expectations and next-step care conversations based on symptoms alone.



Host-response testing provides additional clinical context beyond signs and symptoms.

The **gray zone** of respiratory assessment.

Respiratory symptoms often overlap across bacterial and non-bacterial respiratory illnesses. Cough, fever, fatigue, sore throat, congestion, headache and body aches can appear across multiple respiratory infections, which makes symptom-based differentiation challenging.

Host-response biomarkers can provide additional clinical insight when symptoms alone do not clearly distinguish bacterial from non-bacterial respiratory illness.

Common overlapping symptoms

- Cough
- Fever
- Sore throat
- Congestion
- Runny nose
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Body aches
- Malaise

Worsening or persistent symptoms

TRADITIONAL TESTING. LIMITED ANSWERS.

What traditional testing tells you.

Pathogen testing alone can identify the 'what.'
It doesn't always answer what comes next.

Clinical assessment requires more than pathogen identification.

- Pathogen testing identifies the organism.
- Clinical assessment determines the appropriate next step.

PATHOGEN TESTING

The “what”



COVID-19

SARS-CoV-2



Influenza A&B

Seasonal strains



RSV

Respiratory Syncytial Virus



Strep A

Group A *Streptococcus*

UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

The “what now?”

Q1

What are the appropriate next steps?

Q2

When is a referral or escalation warranted?

Q3

How does this support appropriate antibiotic decisions?

WHAT MATTERS AT THE POINT OF CARE.

What **clinicians** look for in a respiratory assessment tool.

Across care settings, clinicians are asking the same questions when evaluating a respiratory diagnostic—speed, simplicity, and whether it fits the way care actually happens.

These are the principles that guide every respiratory diagnostic we develop.

1

Will this slow me down?

Results delivered quickly enough to inform the visit itself — not just the chart afterward. In high-volume settings, every extra minute adds up, so speed has to hold under real patient load.

2

Is this easy for my team to use?

A straightforward process for sample collection and testing that fits into daily routines without added training. Staff can pick it up quickly and run it consistently, regardless of experience.

3

Will this provide meaningful clinical insight?

Objective insight that helps guide more appropriate, stewardship-focused, confident care decisions at the point of contact.

4

Will this work in my healthcare setting?

Testing designed for near-patient environments—wherever respiratory care is actually delivered.

INTRODUCING FEBRIDX®.

Designed for decentralized respiratory care.

FebriDx is a rapid, self-contained test that differentiates bacterial acute respiratory infections from non-bacterial etiology and delivers results after 10 minutes, helping clinicians make confident, on-the-spot decisions reducing unnecessary antibiotic use.



Designed to support faster, more informed patient guidance during high-volume respiratory visits — helping care teams make timely decisions without disrupting existing workflows.



Fast, actionable results

Timely insights for timely conversations



CLIA-waived simplicity

Designed for near-patient testing environments



Simple sample collection

Streamlined workflow, minimal training



Stewardship-focused support

Helps guide appropriate antibiotic use



Workflow-friendly implementation

Supports fast-paced respiratory care settings



Complements existing workflows

Fits alongside broader respiratory workflows

MADE FOR WHERE CARE HAPPENS.

Ideal care environments.

Respiratory illnesses are most often evaluated outside the traditional laboratory. From urgent care clinics to retail pharmacies and community health settings, care teams need diagnostic tools that fit naturally into their workflow while supporting timely patient conversations.

Respiratory care works best when diagnostic insights fit naturally into the clinical workflow.



Urgent Care



Retail Pharmacy Clinics



Employer Health Programs



Student Health Centers



Community Health Settings



Seasonal respiratory
surge support

CLOSING THE DIAGNOSTIC GAP.

Better **insight**, better respiratory decisions.

Symptoms overlap.

Clinical presentation
alone rarely tells the
full story.

Pathogen testing has
limits.

Identifying an organism
doesn't always answer
the next clinical question.

Clinical context matters.

Better insight supports
more informed patient
conversations.

Stewardship starts early.

Better assessment helps
support appropriate
antibiotic use.

The **diagnostic gap** isn't caused by
a lack of testing. It's created when
symptoms alone don't provide
enough clinical context to guide
the next step.

**Connect with
our respiratory
diagnostics team.**

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Explore PHASE Scientific's
respiratory diagnostic portfolio
and educational resources.

We believe better diagnostics create better conversations.

Because every patient deserves care informed by more than symptoms alone. Every clinician deserves meaningful insight that supports confident decision-making.

And every healthcare setting deserves diagnostic solutions designed for the way care actually happens.

PHASESCIENTIFIC